

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 23215 021114Z

20

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-24 EA-11 FRB-03 INR-11 IO-14 NEA-14 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SP-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 SWF-02

OMB-01 CEQ-02 COA-02 DODE-00 EPA-04 NSF-04 NSC-07

PM-07 SCI-06 SS-20 FEA-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 OIC-04 DRC-01 /216 W
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O R 021102Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 3763

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OECD PARIS 23215

FOR GENEVA: STILLMAN PASS TO BENGELSDORF

SUBJECT: OECD MEETING OF ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTERS,
NOV. 13-14: ACTION PROPOSAL CONCERNING TRANS-
FRONTIER POLLUTION (TFP)

REF: STATE 211503

1. AS FORESEEN REFTEL, CANADIAN DEL AT OCTOBER 1 OECD
EXEC COMM MEETING READ LONG STATEMENT REQUESTING TFP
ACTION PROPOSAL BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE PROGRAM OF THE
MINISTERIAL MEETING IN NOVEMBER. HE ASKED THAT THE
NOVEMBER MEETING APPROVE A RELATIVELY SIMPLE RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUBJECT AND CALLING ON
THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE ITS WORK ON TFP
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PAGE 02 OECD P 23215 021114Z

AND TO SUBMIT NEW PROPOSAL FOR APPROVAL NO LATER THAN

MARCH 1976. HE STATED THAT, IF CANADIAN PROPOSAL IS NOT ACCEPTED, "CANADA WILL BE UNABLE TO SUPPORT THE DOCUMENT IN COUNCIL."

2. GIST OF CANADIAN REASONING WAS THAT PRESENT ACTION PROPOSAL SETS BACK US-CANADIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS TO 1909 AND WAS IN CONFLICT WITH PRINCIPLE 21 OF THE STOCKHOLM DECLARATION, AND THAT CONSIDERABLY MORE ADVANCED PROPOSAL COULD BE DEVELOPED IF MORE TIME DEVOTED TO IT.

3. IN ADDITION STRONG US STATEMENT OF DISAPPOINTMENT PER REFTTEL, GERMAN, DUTCH AND NORWEGIAN AMBASSADORS EXPRESSED STRONG REACTIONS AGAINST CANADIAN STATEMENT, AND OTHERS INDICATED DISAPPROVAL IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION. CHAIRMAN (VALERY, FRANCE) LIKEWISE CHASTISED CANADIANS FOR SEEKING TO PREVENT ACTION BY OTHER COUNTRIES AND RULED OUT OF ORDER CANADIAN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT FURTHER DISCUSSION OF DOCUMENT. DANISH AMBASSADOR NOTED SPECIAL HIGHER TFP STANDARDS EXIST AMONG SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES AS THEY DO BETWEEN US AND CANADA.

4. MISSION AND SECRETARIAT HAVE SUGGESTED THAT CANADIAN DEL SOUND OUT OTTAWA ON ACCEPTABILITY OF ACTION PROPOSAL WITH PRESENT PARA II OF TITLE A BEING REPLACED BY THE FOLLOWING:

"THESE PRINCIPLES SHOULD BE INTERPRETED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE STOCKHOLM DECLARATION ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AS WELL AS WITH THE RECOGNIZED PRINCIPLES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW OF GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS. THEY ARE INTERIM IN NATURE AND CONSTITUTE A FIRST STEP IN THE DEFINITION AND THE ELABORATION OF PRINCIPLES WITH PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS. THEY SHOULD BE ADAPTED AND COMPLETED BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT PROGRESS UNDER WAY OR ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED BY SOME COUNTRIES IN THEIR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CONCERNING TRANSFRONTIER POLLUTION. RECOGNITION OF THESE PRINCIPLES COULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS LIMITING THE SCOPE OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS IN THIS FIELD."

5. IN VIEW OF EXTREMELY RIGID INSTRUCTIONS OF CANADIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 OECD P 23215 021114Z

DEL FROM OTTAWA, THEIR DEL PRESENTLY UNABLE TO EXPRESS MUCH HOPE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF ACTION PROPOSAL WITH THIS COMPROMISE WORDING WHICH ATTEMPTS TO RESPOND TO THEIR CONCERN.

6. MISSION RECOMMENDS URGENT BILATERAL US-CANADIAN CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT, WITH OR WITHOUT ABOVE COMPROMISE WORDING, TO SEE IF CANADIAN POSITION CAN BE

REVERSED. SUBJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED AGAIN AT EXEC COMM
ON OCTOBER 4. IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF THE MATTER
COULD BE IRONED OUT AT THAT TIME OR BEFORE IT GOES TO
COUNCIL.
KATZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, POLLUTION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974OECDP23215
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740278-0061
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741080/aaaacpyk.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 211503
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <16-Aug-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OECD MEETING OF ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTERS, NOV. 13-14: ACTION PROPOSAL CONCERNING TRANS-
TAGS: SENV, XG, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005